

Business Resource List

The following is a list of business resources that may be of value to you. Links to their websites and contact information is provided. Organizations listed are not all affiliated with the State of Michigan.

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs)

The PTACs of Michigan work to help all Michigan companies successfully obtain and perform under local, state and federal government contracts. Since 1985, the PTACs of Michigan have assisted businesses in securing contract awards. They provide expert counseling services, an electronic Bid-Match system, and educational events. Get in touch with your local PTAC by going to www.ptacsofmichigan.org, and clicking on the locations map (found on the right-hand side) and selecting your region.

Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Centers (MI-SBTDCs)

The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) enhances Michigan's economic well-being by providing counseling, training, research and advocacy for new ventures, existing small businesses and innovative technology companies. Some of their services include business plan development, product and market research, diversification analysis, and financial and organizational assessments. To connect with your local MI-SBTDC, visit their website at www.misbtdc.org.

Local Unit of Government Bid Posting Site **Michigan Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN)**

The Michigan Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN) is a group of nearly 100 local units of government (cities, counties, public universities, and more) that have joined forces to use one website to post all of their bid opportunities. If your company would like to bid on local unit of government work, please consider registering at www.mitn.info. Contact MITN directly by calling 800-835-4603 or by emailing them at e-procurementssupport@bidnet.com.

NOTE: The State of Michigan bids are not posted on this website. The State of Michigan is not affiliated with this site. Please go to www.bid4michigan.com to view State of Michigan contract solicitations.

Michigan Economic Development Corporation **Pure Michigan Business Connect**

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) main web page is www.michiganadvantage.org. Click on "Grow Your Business" on the top toolbar to learn about available resources for businesses.

Pure Michigan Business Connect a public-private initiative developed by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) connects Michigan companies with opportunities to help them grow and expand. By participating in the program, companies can find procurement resources to expand their supply chain, find new business opportunities, access a new business-to-business network and receive business assistance at little to no cost like legal,

accounting, and other services. Visit the Pure Michigan Business Connect B2B portal at www.puremichiganb2b.com/b2b-web/#dashboard

The MEDC's Customer Contact Center is ready to help businesses get in touch with an MEDC specialist and the community resources available to businesses. Contact them by calling 888-522-0103.

Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association (MPPOA)

The MPPOA website may be a good networking contact for you. They provide quality support services through membership networking opportunities and educational conferences and seminars where you can network with purchasing staff from K-12 schools, community colleges, public universities, transit authorities, cities, counties, and state government. Visit them online at www.mppoa.net.

BusinessUSA

BusinessUSA supports U.S. businesses by cataloging government and nonprofit enterprise assistance resources, matching them to specific business needs, and streamlining access to the programs and services needed most. Extensive services and information available include the following: access to university resources, business and trade research data, business plan development, contracting opportunities, cost identification and control, employee location, equipment locator, export assistance, financing solutions, government procurement, import assistance, industry research, intellectual property protection, market diversification, process improvements, regulations, research and innovation grants, tax credits, and worker training. For more information, visit their website www.business.usa.gov.

VetBizCentral

VetBizCentral, also known as the Michigan Veterans Business Resource Center, provides numerous services to Vetrenpreneurs, including training workshops on topics such as financing; education classes on topics like writing an effective business plan, marketing, accounting as well as internet courses; mentors and business counselors to assist clients with writing an effective business plan and securing business financing; partnering with other free or low cost resources; advocacy on veterans issues; and networking opportunities. More information is available at www.vetbizcentral.org or contact VetBizCentral by calling 810-767-8387 or by emailing them at info@vetbizcentral.org.

Small Business Administration (SBA)

The federal SBA offers start-up and existing businesses a wide range of resources, including training, business assistance, help preparing to bid on federal projects; as well as loan and funding programs. Go to www.sba.gov to learn more or contact the SBA Answer Desk by calling 800-827-5722 or by email at answerdesk@sba.gov.

SCORE – Counselors to America's Small Business

SCORE is a nationwide organization of active and retired business men and women who volunteer their services to assist small businesses and entrepreneurs. SCORE provides free business counseling and offers low-cost workshops on a variety of business topics. SCORE Counselors have expertise in many areas including accounting, finance, marketing, operations,

sales, training, human resources, and intellectual property. Michigan has ten SCORE chapters, located throughout the state. Go to www.scoremichigan.org to find the location nearest you.

Center for Empowerment and Economic Development (CEED)

CEED is committed to empowering women and minorities economically through business development training, supplier certification, business-to-business networking and accessible capital assistance programs. CEED has a number of programs that assist business owners with administration, financial, and professional enrichment support. They house the Women Business Owner Certifying Organization for the Great Lakes region (WBEC-Great Lakes) which, in addition to certification services, also provides education and leadership mentoring. For more information visit: www.miceed.org

Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council (MMSDC)

The MMSDC is one of 37 regional councils affiliated with the National Minority Supplier Development Council. MMSDC is a privately funded, non-profit, corporate services organization that has provided unique procurement opportunities to Corporate Members and certified Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) for over 30 years. MMBDC provides ongoing growth opportunities, financial support, and training and education for its corporate members and for Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs). Learn more at www.mmbdc.com.

Michigan Works! Services for Employers

A broad range of integrated services are provided to employers to support economic workforce and development efforts. Some core services include: basic resume searches; writing effective job postings; recruitment; resume sorting; assistance in finding qualified workers; business start-up, retention and expansion services; access to interview facilities; information regarding customized training programs; labor market, workplace accommodation, and tax credit opportunity resources; and training incentives. To locate a Michigan Works! Office in your area, go to www.MichiganWorks.org.

MSU Business-Connect

Michigan State University partners with the business community and leverages their resources to provide research partnerships, business performance, entrepreneur support, and regional development efforts to assist businesses. For more information, visit www.businessconnect.msu.edu.

Lansing Area Public Purchasing Group (LAPPG)

The LAPPG is made up of public purchasing officials throughout Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties, and it may be a good networking contact for you. They host a "Meet the Buyer – Reverse Trade Fair" annually. More information can be found here: www.lcc.edu/purchasing/lappg.

Ann Arbor SPARK Central Business Incubator

Ann Arbor SPARK is an organization committed to accelerating the development of startup businesses and supporting the growth those already established. Ann Arbor SPARK supports all entrepreneurs in Washtenaw County in their effort to establish the Ann Arbor region as a

business destination. They collaborate with business, academic, government, and community investor partners such as the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College, the City of Ann Arbor, and many more. To learn more about how Ann Arbor SPARK can help your business, visit their website at www.annarborusa.org/, or contact them directly by calling 734.761.9317 or by accessing their email information at the following link: www.annarborusa.org/about-us/contact-us.

Automation Alley

Automation Alley is a technology-based business association that creates development opportunities and results for its members and stockholders. Committed to growing the innovation cluster of Southeast Michigan, Automation alley promotes regional prosperity through entrepreneurial and exporting assistance, workforce development, and technology acceleration. For more information, or to become a member, visit the Automation Alley website at www.automationalley.com/ or contact them directly by calling 800.427.5100.

Center for New Enterprise Opportunity (NEO Center)

The NEO Center is a Lansing-based, small business incubator encouraging radical business collaboration and inspires creative entrepreneurial action. They believe that having fun, gaining knowledge, sharing ideas, and making money are key aspects to their own success, as well as to that of your business. The NEO Center provides businesses with supportive service, flexible space, and the opportunity to collaborate with other area businesses. To connect with the NEO Center, visit their website at www.neocenter.org/index.html. You can also contact them directly by email at info@neocenter.org or by calling 517.708.2997.

Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM)

CEDAM is an economic development association that provides a statewide voice and forum for community building and community-based economic development in order to maximize the effectiveness and capacity of its members. CEDAM compiles and shares information that enables its members statewide to resolve local challenges. Visit CEDAM's website at www.cedam.info/ or access their direct contact information at www.cedam.info/contact/index.php to learn more.

Connect Michigan

Connect Michigan is a nonprofit subsidiary of Connected Nation that is working with the Michigan Public Service Commission to ensure the widespread access, use, and adoption of broadband to all Michigan communities. They facilitate community technology planning by focusing their initiative on both the regional and local level. To get connected, visit the Connect Michigan website at www.connectmi.org/ or contact them directly by email at info@connectmi.org.

Detroit Economic Club (DEC)

The DEC is an internationally known organization that provides a platform for government and business leaders who represent the changing global environment. It is an important venue for that has hosted every U.S. president since Richard Nixon as well as CEO's of Fortune 100 companies, U.S. Cabinet Members, and other senior state/national government officials. Membership is open to all with a passion for business and a desire to remain informed on all

current business and political issues. Become a member of the DEC on their website at www.econclub.org/. For more information, you can also contact them directly by calling 313.963.8547 or by accessing their email information at the following link: www.econclub.org/Contact.aspx.

Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC)

The DEGC is a non-profit organization that works closely with the City of Detroit and other partners to support existing businesses and to attract new companies and investments to the city of Detroit. Visit their website at www.degc.org/ to see how the DEGC can help your business, or access their direct contact information at the following link: www.degc.org/contact-us.aspx.

Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP)

LEAP is a coalition of area leaders helping entrepreneurs start new businesses and grow existing enterprises in the Greater Lansing region. LEAP helps build stronger companies and greater communities in an effort to create a nationally and globally successful region. For more information on LEAP, visit their website at www.purelansing.com/. You can also contact them by calling 517.702.3387 or by email at info@leapinc.biz.

MichAGAIN

MichAGAIN is dedicated to helping individuals and businesses connect and reconnect with Michigan. Visit their website at www.mitalent.org/michagain/ where you will find links to MichAGAIN events, partners, and additional resources. You can also contact MichAGAIN directly by email at info@MichAGAIN.org or by calling 888.522.0103.

Microenterprise Network of Michigan (MNM)

MNM is a statewide association leading job creation, asset building, capital access, and economic growth through microenterprise development. Visit their website at www.microenterprisenetworkofmichigan.org/ to access their resource directory for Michigan microbusiness, or contact them directly by calling 517.485.3588 or by emailing them at the following link: glenn@cedam.info.

Michigan Business Incubator Association (MBIA)

MBIA helps foster state, local, and regional economic success through communication and idea exchange among incubators. MBIA serves as a clearinghouse for the collection and distribution of information to assist entrepreneurs with new business ideas, and it provides a basis for group efforts that promote the public image of incubators and their economic impact. To register your business, visit the MBIA website at www.michiganincubation.org/index.php or email them at michigan.incubation@gmail.com.

Michigan Business and Professional Association (MBPA)

MBPA is a business trade organization providing exceptional member-service, education, and business solutions for small-medium Michigan businesses. Register at www.michbusiness.org/ to become one of 20,000 statewide members or contact them by calling 1.888.277.6464.

Michigan Chamber of Commerce

As Michigan's leading statewide business advocacy organization, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce supports job providers in the legislative, political, and legal process every day. They represent approximately 6,800 statewide employers, trade associations, and local chambers of commerce of every size and type. For more information, visit the Michigan Chamber of Commerce website at www.michamber.com/ or access their contact information at the following link: www.michamber.com/contact-us.

Michigan Economic Developers Association (MEDA)

The MEDA promotes Michigan's economic development through education, networking, and advocacy on economic development. They provide a variety of services and programs to enhance their members' ability and skill in efficient, effective economic development. For more information contact the MEDA directly by calling 517.241.0089 or by emailing meda@medaweb.org. You can also register at www.medaweb.org/ where you will also find links to member events, networking connections, training, and much more.

Michigan State University Center for Regional Economic Innovation (MSU REI)

Through contact with some of the nation's most innovative and effective economic development professionals, MSU REI promotes economically-vibrant communities that encourage business development and the creation of well-paid, sustainable jobs. MSU REI increases peer-networking and accelerates the dispersal of local economic development resources, tools, and programs among development professionals and distressed economies. To learn more, visit the MSU REI website at www.reicenter.org/ or contact them by emailing at rei@msu.edu or by calling 517.353.9555.

Motor City Connect (MCC)

MCC is Detroit's networking engine that may be a good resource for you. It is a collection of business professionals who gather both online and offline to meet, understand, and connect with business leaders to help each other and Metro Detroit succeed. Take an active role in the community and grow your business with MCC. To join, visit their website at www.motorcityconnect.groupsite.com/main/summary.

New Economy Initiative for Southeast Michigan (NEI)

The NEI is an initiative to transition Metro Detroit and southeast Michigan to an innovation-based economy and establish the region in the global economy. To get involved with the NEI, visit their website at <http://neweconomyinitiative.cfsem.org/> where you will find links to events and resources. You can also access their contact information at the following link: <http://neweconomyinitiative.cfsem.org/contact>.

Oakland Business Assistance Center (BAC)

Oakland City's BAC is a one-stop information and referral center for businesses in Oakland and may be a resource for you. The physical center, located next to Oakland City Hall, offers a full time staff to help business owners navigate City government and to provide referrals to local organizations, county agencies, state agencies, and other resources to help start, operate, and grow businesses in Oakland. Visit the BAC's website at

www.oaklandbac.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=102&Itemid=85 or access or access their contact information at the following link:
www.oaklandbac.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=102&Itemid=85.

Oakland University INCubator (OU INC)

Located on the campus of Oakland University in Oakland County, the OU INC is a business incubator offering flexible office space, professional business development programs, and many resources to assist area businesses. The OU INC provides entrepreneurs with a unique environment to start-up, establish, and grow successful businesses. Through the OU INC, Oakland University involves faculty, students, and research centers to assist applied research, technology development, commercialization efforts, and business incubation for a moderate cost. To connect with the OU INC, email them directly at ouincubator@gmail.com or call 248.648.4800. You can also visit their website at the following link: www.oakland.edu/ouinc/.

Prima Civitas Foundation

The Prima Civitas Foundation is a nonprofit economic development organization dedicated to establishing global networks for Michigan businesses. Together with their knowledge resources and experienced public and private sector partners, Prima Civitas works to create a more competitive, innovative, and global Michigan. For more information, visit the foundation's website at www.primacivitas.org/. You can also contact them directly by emailing info@primacivitas.org or by calling 517.999.3382.

Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM)

The SBAM is a business association dedicated to removing the legislative, regulatory, economic, and legal barriers inhibiting the success of small businesses in Michigan. All of the SBAM's programs and services aim to improve the conditions in which small businesses operate and to unite small businesses through entrepreneurship. To become a member, visit the SBAM website at www.sbam.org/ or contact them directly by calling 800.362.5461 or by emailing them at sbam@sbam.org.

TechTown

TechTown is a nonprofit business incubator and accelerator dedicated to driving business growth, job creation, and revitalization of Detroit's entrepreneurial culture. Through its partners and programs, TechTown connects small businesses to the customers, talent, capital, and locations necessary to build a thriving enterprise in southeast Michigan. Visit their website at www.techtowndetroit.org/ for links to events, programs, partners, and much more. You can also contact them by emailing starthere@techtownwsu.org or by calling 313.879.5250.

University of Michigan Business Engagement Center (U-M BEC)

Located in Ann Arbor, the BEC is designed to strengthen the University of Michigan's ties to business and community partners and to help revitalize and diversify the state of Michigan's economy. The BEC plays a key role as a partner in local economic development and works closely with other organizations such as Ann Arbor SPARK, Detroit Regional Chamber, and Pure Michigan. For more information on the BEC, visit their website at www.bec.umich.edu/index/. You can also contact them directly by emailing um-bec@umich.edu or by calling 877.647.1000 or 734.647.1000.

West Michigan Regional Planning Commission (WMRPC or Region 8)

The WMRPC is one of Michigan's 14 regional planning organizations whose focus areas include transportation planning, economic and community development, land use planning, data collection and analysis, and promoting cooperation among communities. They are available to assist communities meet development requirements with resources including the U.S. Census, mapping capabilities, plan preparation, identification of funding resources, and much more. The WMRPC represents all counties in Michigan's Region 8 including Allegan, Ionia, Kent, Mecosta, Montcalm, Osceola, and Ottawa Counties. To connect with the WMRPC, visit their website at www.wmrpc.org/ or contact them by email at the following link: info@wmrpc.org.

Western Michigan University Business Connection (WMU BizConnect)

Located in Western Michigan University's Haworth College of Business in Ypsilanti, the WMU BizConnect helps businesses network and market, develop concepts into business plans, and establish research partnerships with their faculty in business, engineering, education, health, human services, and more. Visit their website at www.wmich.edu/businessconnection/ to see how the WMU BizConnect can help your business. You can also contact them directly by emailing lisa.garcia@wmich.edu or by calling 269.387.0950.

Michigan Association of Female Entrepreneurs (MAFE)

Michigan Association for Female Entrepreneurs (MAFE) is an award-winning nonprofit organization committed to supporting and promoting the economic growth and advancement of women entrepreneurs in Southeast Michigan. MAFE supports the entrepreneurial development among women at all levels of entrepreneurship, from start-up to mature businesses. Visit their website at www.mafedetroit.org/.

Grand Valley State University's Van Andel Global Trade Center (VAGTC)

Whether you're thinking about opening a new market, figuring out customs compliance and international regulations, or looking for overseas suppliers, Van Andel Global Trade Center is here to help. Since 1999, the mission of Van Andel Global Trade Center has been to strengthen the community through increased global business by providing international consulting, training, and resources. Van Andel Global Trade Center is an outreach department of Grand Valley State University and is located on its downtown Grand Rapids' campus. To learn more about VAGTC and all of the international services they offer local small and medium sized businesses, visit their website at www.vagtc.org or contact them directly by email: vagtc@gvsu.edu.

If you know of any other organizations that could be added to this list, please email suggestions to DTMB-micontractconnect@michigan.gov. Thank you!